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COUNTRY : Costa Rica

DATE DISTR. 3 December 1948

SUBJECT Caribbean Legion Command

NO. OF PAGES 3

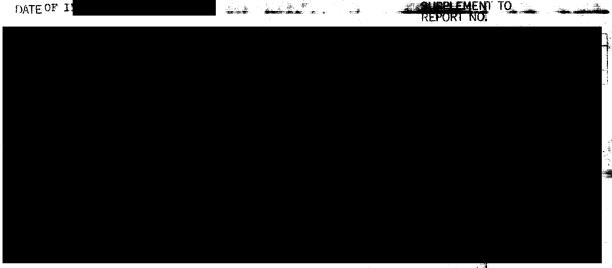
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SUBDLEMENT TO REPORT NO.



"I acknowledge receipt of your letter of 23 October, and of that addressed to Lr. Ricardo Orus heyes in Guatemala.

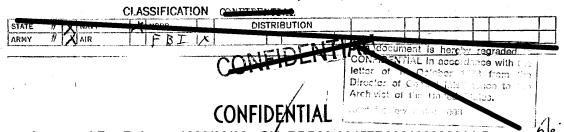
"Esteemed Mr. Secretary

- (2)"I wish to inform the Directorate, through you, of all that has occurred since my note, dated 2 October, which you have in your possession.
- "Once the agreement was signed between Dr. Hosendo Arguello, Jr., and General Ramirez, on behalf of the Caribbean Legion. we worked diligently towards unification and agreement among the dissident groups. This agreement was reached after many conversations among the most adamant and aggressive elements, and after Dr. Arguello abandoned his uncompromising position and his self-interest. Thus the revolutionary movement became unified, as I had proposed in the beginning.

"On 17 October 1948, after all the elements had accepted Lr. Assendo Arguello as Commander in Chief (of the Army of Liberation) and Dr. Hamirez as Chief of Staff, Dr. Arguello sent Lamirez the enclosed note, causing further disagreements which were nevertheless finally settled in the light of the new spirit of conciliation.

"Ramirez replied cautiously to Arguello that the appointments were subject to final approval; that Arguello had not supplied the promised troops; that neith r of their appointments had been ratified by the Junta; and that he (Ramirez) would comply with his military duties as a subordinate to Arguello once the pacts became effective.

"Only two hundred rifles and fifty machine guns, which have already arrived in Costa Rica, were purchased in the United States.



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The thousand rifles which they had expected to purchase were unobtainable owing to the great demand and contraband of arms in other countries. In my presence Figures offered to contribute the thousand rifles from the Costa Rican arsenal.

- (7) "The first contingent of men and equipment from Rio Conejo was sent on 16 October in a Cuban government plane, and the second left on 18 October. Two planes and the rest of the men from kio Conejo were ready to depart on 24 October, when orders were received from Guatemala suspending the shipment. Three days later I received a telegram from Orue, answering one of mine, saying that this suspension was temporary for two weeks. A group composed of hosendo Arguello, Jr., Ramirez, Francisco Ibarra Fayorga, Federico Solorzano, Octavio Pasos, myself and others representing all the various groups, planned to go to Guatemala and consult with Arevalo, who has always promoted unity of this sort. We wished to investigate the reason for suspending the transfer, and to have him clarify his intentions. The Guatemalan Ambassador advised us today to postpone the trip, pending the arrival, early next week, of a representative who would bring instructions. The trip was therefore cancelled.
- (8) "After talking to the Ambassador, we decided to 'restrain' our activities in view of Guatemala's desire to avoid international scandal, which could easily be instigated by the press or Somoza. After Arana and Valle U. publicized the existence of a camp in Guatemala, it became necessary to find a new one. Rosendo Arguello, Sr., who is now in Cuba, will be joined by his son from Guatemala. In my opinion, President Socarras, who is prepared to supply money and arms, should encourage Arevalo to support the movement. A representative is now in Venezuela, and the Dominicans in the Caribbean Legion are prepared.
- (9) "I trust that Guatemala's present attitude is caused by the recent publicity and that it does not imply a reversal of its position, which would be disastrous for our cause. I do not have sufficient facts at my disposal to decide which is the case. I considered it my duty to inform you of the situation so that you might reach an advantageous solution to the problem.
- (10) "The plans for the Junta, as given in the note for Orue, are idealistic and represent the hopes of the Nicaraguan people. They comply with the ideals of a people which seeks a peace including personal security and civil rights. It is understood that only a frank and loyal understanding based on justice, liberty, and cooperation will provide a better future for our country. All these principles and ideals should serve to unite us now and later with the Conservative Party, since our previous disorganized efforts were fruitless.
- (11) "I am still planning to go to the United States for a medical examination. On my way through Guete: ala I shall clarify any questions you may have regarding this letter.
- (12) "Judging from the private conversation I had with President Figueres three nights ago, I am convinced that he remains firm in his offers of cooperation.

Sincerely yours, (signed) Carlos Pasos Approved For Release 1999/09/08: CIA-RDP82-00457R002100390014-5

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- The letter represents the attitude of the more conservative revolutionary groups in their determination to present a united front against Somoza.
- 3. The note to General Ramirez from Lr. Arguello Jr., which was referred to by Carlos Pasos in sub-paragraph four above was a formal reprimand written in very strong language, taking Ramirez to task for failure in his sub-ordinate military obligations on more than ten specific counts. One paragraph of the note directs Ramirez to submit a list of all personnel under his direct command to the Intelligence Service of the Government of Costa Rica and of the Army of Liberation. In another paragraph Arguello includes a vague threat to report matters to governments friendly to the Army of Liberation, unless Ramirez is disposed to rectify his conduct.

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